

29 January 2026

[submitted electronically via: HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov]

The Honorable Susan Donovan Chair, House Committee on Health & Human Services
State House

82 Smith Street

Providence, RI 02903

RE: H7075 (McGaw) THE MATTHEW FEDERICO DIABETIC SAFETY ACT– H7188

(Kennedy) - AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS

INSURANCE POLICIES –SUPPORT - Bratberg

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the Committee:

Thank you for taking the opportunity to consider H7075 (McGaw), which will provide 2 glucagon auto-injectors annually at no-cost to patients with diabetes, and H7188 (Kennedy), which caps the cost of glucose and insulin monitoring/delivery devices.

I am a licensed pharmacist and a professor at the URI College of Pharmacy writing on behalf of myself in support of these bills.

The goal of these bills is to reduce the unintended consequences of hypoglycemia (low blood glucose), which if left untreated can lead to cardiovascular seizure, coma and even death. H7075 has a companion bill in the Senate sponsored by Sen. Lauria (S2112).

Glucagon is a hormone to help treat hypoglycemia in patients who cannot consume oral glucose, are unconscious, or currently using insulin. However, it is expensive (due to lack of insurance coverage) and requires annual replacement, limiting uptake.


The [American Diabetes Association Standards of Care \(ADA\) – 2026](#), emphasize achieving glycemic control while minimizing hypoglycemia and suggest alternative methods of achieving targets with other agents. Given that GLP-1 injectable therapies are not routinely covered without a prior authorization or high-copay, patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus often use insulin or other medications which have a higher risk of hypoglycemia. Patients with Type 1 DM, have no choice, but to administer insulin to live... and risk hypoglycemia and its consequences.

The ADA recommends that glucagon should be prescribed for **all individuals** taking insulin or at high risk for hypoglycemia. Family, caregivers, school personnel, and others providing support to these individuals should know its location and be educated on how to administer it.

In 2023, the General Assembly passed a bill to have insurance cover 2 auto-injectors once a year, and H7075 can achieve a similar goal for glucagon.

People living with diabetes and their loved ones deserve the ability to manage their disease without financial limits. H7075 and H7188 will help.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Bratberg, PharmD, FAPhA

Clinical Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Clinical Research

7 Greenhouse Rd, Kingston, RI 02881